

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-26, 28, 30-37, and 39-54 are for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. Applicant requests favorable consideration of this response and allowance of the subject application based on the following remarks.

Examiner Initiated Interview

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's participation in a telephonic conference of March 4, 2008. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration.

During the telephone conference, the claimed subject matter was discussed. In particular, Applicant appreciates the Examiner suggesting to file a terminal disclaimer to avoid a potential double patenting rejection.

Applicant understands that the Examiner agrees the suggested claim amendments overcome the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, Applicant amends the claims herein, as discussed during the telephone conference. Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Potential Double Patenting

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-26, 28, 30-37, and 39-54 may be provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of copending Application No. 10/405,560. The Office states the conflicting claims are not identical, but are not patentably distinct from each other.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) or (d) to overcome the provisional rejection based on nonstatutory double patenting ground as the co-pending application is commonly assigned with this application. The terminal disclaimer is attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the terminal disclaimer be entered to avoid a potential double patenting rejection.

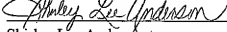
Conclusion

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-26, 28, 30-37, and 39-54 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the subject application. If any issues remain unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee & Hayes, PLLC

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By: 
Shirley Lee Anderson
Reg. No. 57,763
(509) 324-9256 ext. 258